

*I. In the claims:*

Claims 1-22 were previously cancelled.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for searching identifying data, comprising:
- (a) compiling a master library of data from users of a network, wherein said master library includes a collection of individual user libraries; and
  - (b) measuring proximity of a first library to a second library, including assigning a standard of proximity between a ranking of names in said first library to a ranking of names in said second library as  $(1/n) \sum \text{abs}(r_i - s_i)$ , where  $r$  is a ranking of names in said first library,  $s$  is a ranking of names in said second library,  $i$  is a coefficient for a current ranking of names in one of said libraries, and  $n$  is the quantity of names in said libraries, wherein the step of measuring proximity includes comparing a list of names within said libraries that are common within a predetermined factor.
24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising forwarding data from one of said libraries to a list based upon a user defined proximity value.
25. (Cancel) The method of claim 23, wherein said master library includes a collection of individual user libraries.
26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23 25, wherein said user libraries are a collection of lists of said identifying data.
27. (Cancel) The method of claim 23, wherein the step of measuring proximity includes comparing a list of names within said libraries that are common within a predetermined factor.
28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising the step of assigning a

rank to a sub-library based upon a criterion.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein said criteria is selected from the group consisting of: frequency of appearance in said master library, intensity of use by third parties, cost of use, ease of use, difficulty of use, and frequency of occurrence in selected portions of said master library.
30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of assigning a score to said identifying data based upon proximity of said rank of identifying data in said sub-library to said lists of identifying data in said master library.
31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said score is based upon a quantity of redundancy between said scoring library and said sub-library.
32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~28~~ 23, further comprising the step of viewing sub-libraries within said master library.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, further comprising the step of searching for said sub-library with a common subject matter to said independent library.
34. (New) A computer implemented method for searching identifying data, comprising:
- (a) compiling a master library of data from users of a network, wherein said master library includes a collection of individual user libraries;
  - (b) measuring proximity of a first library to a second library, including assigning a standard of proximity between a ranking of names in said first library to a ranking of names in said second library as  $(1/n) \sum \text{abs}(r_i - s_i)$ , where  $r$  is a ranking of names in said first library,  $s$  is a ranking of names in said second library,  $i$  is a coefficient for a current ranking of names in one of said libraries, and  $n$  is the quantity of names in said libraries; and
  - (c) compiling a list of common names within a collection of said libraries based upon said

measured proximity factor.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising forwarding data from said libraries to a list based upon a user defined proximity value.
36. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein said master library includes a collection of individual user libraries.
37. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein said user libraries are a collection of lists of said identifying data.
38. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the step of measuring proximity includes comparing a list of names within said libraries that are common within a predetermined factor.
39. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising the step of assigning a rank to a sub-library based upon a criterion.
40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein said criteria is selected from the group consisting of: frequency of appearance in said master library, intensity of use by third parties, cost of use, ease of use, difficulty of use, and frequency of occurrence in selected portions of said master library.
41. (New) The method of claim 39, further comprising the step of assigning a score to said identifying data based upon proximity of said rank of identifying data in said sub-library to said lists of identifying data in said master library.
42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein said score is based upon a quantity of redundancy between said scoring library and said sub-library.
43. (New) The method of claim 39, further comprising the step of viewing sub-libraries within

said master library.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, further comprising the step of searching for said sub-library with a common subject matter to said independent library.